

REMARKS


Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 21, 29, and 30; claims 31 through 34 have been canceled; and claims 35 through 37 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-30 and 35-37 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 14, 21, 29, and 30 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. Specifically, the independent claims have been amended to include a screw form comprising: a rearward-facing thread surface having a substantially straight sloped portion and at least two non-contiguous curve portions, such that a point on the rearward-facing thread surface at a root of the thread is farther from a forward end of the closure means than a point on the rearward-facing thread surface at a crest of the thread when measured along a line parallel to the longitudinal axis. Support for this element can be found throughout the specification, including Fig. 4 and paragraphs 39 and 40 of the present specification.

Applicant respectfully submits that the applied art fails to teach or suggest at least the above-identified elements of the independent claims, and therefore the claims should be allowed over the applied art. Thus, the Examiner's consideration of the amended claims and favorable treatment thereof is respectfully requested. Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 06-2380, under Order No. 65677/P004US/10403105 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 31, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Jody C. Bishop
Registration No.: 44,034
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.
2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 2800
Dallas, Texas 75201-2784
(214) 855-8007
(214) 855-8200 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant